

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7, and 9-20 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 21-28 have been canceled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof.

Claim 3 has been amended for clarity and claims 1 and 2 have been amended to correct several minor typographical errors noted by the Examiner in the Office Action. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to these claims are respectfully requested.


Claim 11 has been amended to replace "the irregular face" with "an irregular face," and claim 20 has been amended to replace "Teflon" with "polytetrafluoroethylene" and to place the claim in proper Markush group form. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, second paragraph indefiniteness rejection of these claims are respectfully requested.

Finally, independent claims 1, 7, 10 and 11 have been amended to clarify the invention by reciting that for producing the bottom layer, glow discharge using a mixture gas containing nitrogen is used for plasma processing to generate functional groups on the plastic film substrate. Copper metal or an alloy containing primarily copper is then evaporated on the film substrate, so that the metal or alloy covalently bonds to the functional groups on the substrate. Support for this amendment may be found in the specification at least at page 34, line 1 to page 36, line 16 and at page 19, line 22 to page 29, line 2. No new matter has been added by these amendments, and entry is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7, and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner argues that it was not clear how the copper metal or alloy was formed from reaction of the substrate. In view of the present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that such a reaction process has now been clarified, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112 rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate that no prior art has been cited against the present application, and thus the Examiner acknowledges that the present claims are patentably distinct over the prior art of record. In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are also in full compliance with § 112 and thus in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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September 7, 2006 By: 
(Date)

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